

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): ~~Treads~~ The tire tread according to Claim 23, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the vulcanization is carried out at a temperature of between 140 and 170°C.

Claim 17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The tire tread according to Claim 24, wherein the vulcanization is carried out at a temperature between 140 and 170°C.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The tire tread according to Claim 23, wherein said silica has a BET surface of between 100 and 250 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a CTAB surface of between 100 and 250 m<sup>2</sup>/g and an oil absorption between 150 and 250 m/100 g.

Claims 20-21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The tire tread according to Claim 23, wherein said elastomeric composition comprises 2 to 50 parts by weight of carbon black per 100 parts by weight of (a).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A tire tread obtained by vulcanizing an elastomeric composition with sulphur and/or sulphur donors at a temperature of between 130 and 180°C, wherein said elastomeric composition comprises:

- a) 100 parts by weight of an elastomeric mixture comprising
    - 1) from 20 to 100% by weight of an epoxidated elastomer having an epoxidation degree, defined by the number of moles of epoxidated double bonds with respect to the initial number of moles of diene double bonds, of between 2.27 and 5%, said elastomer being derived from the polymerization of a monovinylarene with a conjugated diene, and
    - 2) from 0 to 80% by weight of an elastomer selected from the group consisting of natural rubber, ~~a polybutadiene, a diolefin elastomer and a copolymer of a monovinylarene with a conjugated diene~~ and diene homo- and copolymer elastomers other than the epoxidated elastomer of 1);
  - b) from 10 to 150 parts by weight of silica per 100 parts by weight of [(a)] a;
  - c) of from 0 to 150 parts by weight of carbon black per 100 parts by weight of a);
- said tire tread not containing silane as a compatibilizing agent.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A tire tread consisting essentially of:

- a) 100 parts by weight of an elastomeric mixture comprising
  - 1) from 20 to 100% by weight of an epoxidated elastomer having an epoxidation degree, defined by the number of moles of epoxidated double bonds with respect to the initial number of moles of diene double bonds, of between 2.27 and 5%, said elastomer being derived from the polymerization of a monovinylarene with a conjugated diene, and

2) from 0 to 80% by weight of an elastomer selected from the group consisting of natural rubber, ~~a polybutadiene, a diolefin elastomer and a copolymer of a monovinylarene with a conjugated diene~~ and diene homo- and copolymer elastomers other than the epoxidated elastomer of 1);

b) from 10 to 150 parts by weight of silica per 100 parts by weight of ~~[(a)]~~ a;

c) of from 0 to 150 parts by weight of carbon black per 100 parts by weight of a);  
said tire tread not containing silane as a compatibilizing agent.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 23, wherein the weight ratio between monovinylarene and the conjugated diene is from 10/90 to 40/60.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 23, ~~herein~~ wherein the elastomeric mixture (a) comprises from 40 to 100% by weight of an elastomer deriving from the polymerization of the monovinylarene with the conjugated diene.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 23, wherein the elastomer deriving from the polymerization of the monovinylarene with the conjugated diene is a statistic styrene-buta-diene copolymer (SBR).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 23, wherein the quantity of silica is from 10 to 80 phr and the quantity of carbon black is from 2 to 50 phr.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 23, wherein the quantity of silica is from 30 to 60 phr and the quantity of carbon black is from 3 to 30 phr.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 24, wherein the weight ratio between the monovinylarene and the conjugated diene is from 10/90 to 40/60.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 24, wherein the elastomeric mixture (a) comprises from 40 to 100% by weight of an elastomer deriving from the polymerization of the monovinylarene with the conjugated diene.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 2, wherein the elastomer deriving from the polymerization of the monovinylarene with the conjugated diene is a statistic styrene-butadiene copolymer (SBR).

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 24, wherein the quantity of silica is from 10 to 80 phr and the quantity of carbon black is from 2 to 50 phr.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The ~~elastomeric composition~~ tire tread according to claim 24, wherein the quantity of silica is from 30 to 60 phr and the quantity of carbon black is from 3 to 30 phr.